

1.044.475



# PATENT SPECIFICATION

DRAWINGS ATTACHED

1.044.475

Inventor: ERICH WEIMAR

Date of filing Complete Specification: June 4, 1965.

Application Date: June 4, 1964.

No. 23268/64.

Complete Specification Published: Sept. 28, 1966.

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Index at acceptance:—E1 R30; E1 J12

Int. Cl.:—B 60 r // E 04 f

## COMPLETE SPECIFICATION

### Improvements in Trimming and Sealing Strips

We, DRAFTEX LIMITED, a British Company, of Meteor Works, Torrington Avenue, Coventry, Warwickshire, do hereby declare the invention for which we pray that a patent may be granted to us, and the method by which it is to be performed, to be particularly described in and by the following statement:—

This invention relates to trimming or sealing strips for use on motor vehicles and which are intended to straddle and cover up the otherwise unsightly flange surrounding each door opening or luggage compartment or boot or in some cases a flange or similar part bordering the head lining.

The trimming strip in accordance with the present invention is virtually an improvement on that forming the subject of prior Patent Specification No. 1015728 which included a metal clip extending throughout the length of the strip, the strip being composed of a mouldable material such as a thermoplastic synthetic resin material or a natural or synthetic rubber and extruded or moulded onto the clip to totally enclose the latter, the strip being formed with integral inwardly directed projections which engaged the supporting flange and frictionally maintained the strip in position thereon.

The clip was blanked out from strip or sheet metal and included a plurality of longitudinally spaced transverse ribs connected together by integral connecting portions of comparatively narrow width which would bend or even break when the strip was bent sharply and thus allow the strip to be bent easily around curves of small radius.

The strip as above described was ornamented upon its exterior surface, had an ornamental flock coating or carried a fabric or other suitable ornamental covering.

The trimming strip in accordance with the present invention has been designed to provide a more luxurious finish to a flange

than was possible with the previously proposed construction.

A trimming or sealing strip in accordance with the present invention includes a metal clip and an extruded on or moulded on skin or covering having integrally formed inwardly directed resilient flange gripping portions, a woven fabric covering enclosing the clip and skin and a layer of foam rubber or foam plastic interposed between the skin and outer woven covering where necessary or where desired, the clip being of substantially inverted "U" shape, the longitudinal edges of the outer covering being turned inwardly and upwardly into the interior of the clip.

The longitudinal edges of the outer covering may leave the flange gripping portions exposed so that they grip the flange directly or may extend further upwardly above the upper edges of the flange gripping portions so that they grip the flange indirectly through the woven covering material in which case the woven covering material may upon its longitudinal edges incorporate woven-in rubber threads to obtain a better grip on the flange.

It will be appreciated that the inserted foam rubber or the like in addition to increasing the cross-sectional area of the trimming strip will very much reduce any possibility of the outer covering kinking or wrinkling when the strip is bent around small radius curves and generally will give the trimming strip a more luxurious and expensive appearance.

Referring to the accompanying drawings:

Figures 1 to 4 illustrate in cross-section four alternative forms of trimming strips in accordance with the present invention.

In all four constructions of trimming strips illustrated the strip includes a substantially inverted "U" shaped metal clip 1 contained within a skin or covering 2 of mouldable material preferably a suitable thermo-plastic synthetic resin material which is extruded onto the clip so that the latter is completely en-

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5 closed, the mouldable material being shaped to form integral inwardly and upwardly directed projections 3 which are intended to grip the supporting flange (not shown) directly or through an outer woven covering material indicated by reference numeral 4, the longitudinal edges of the covering 4 being turned inwardly and upwardly as shown at 5.

10 Interposed between the clip covering 2 and the woven fabric outer covering 4 is a layer of foam rubber or foam plastic 6.

15 The trimming strip described is mounted on a supporting flange so that the trimming strip in known manner straddles the flange and hides the otherwise unsightly flange from view.

20 In Figure 1 the woven fabric covering 4 is of greater width than in Figure 2 and consequently in Figure 1 the longitudinal edges of the woven fabric project upwardly above the upper edges of the projections so that the projections do not engage and grip the flange directly but through the covering material.

25 In Figure 2 the covering 4 being of narrow width causes the projections 3 to be exposed so that they engage the flange directly.

In Figures 1 and 2 the foam rubber or foam plastic extends over the curved upper part of the clip and its covering 2.

30 Figures 3 and 4 correspond substantially with Figures 1 and 2 except for the fact that the foam rubber or foam plastic material 6 is situated on one side of the clip preferably on the side which would be observable from inside the motor vehicle. If arranged on the opposite side of the clip the foam rubber or plastic may be compressed under the closing action of the door or other closure member to give a certain amount of sealing effect.

40 In the constructions shown in Figures 1 and 3 where the longitudinal edges of the outer covering extend upwardly above the projections 3 and consequently the flange is gripped by the projections through the covering, the latter near its longitudinal edges preferably incorporates woven-in rubber thread to obtain a better grip on the flange faces.

50 The clip may be constructed as in the Patent Specification above referred to in which case the clip will include a series of spaced transverse ribs connected together by short and comparatively narrow longitudinally arranged connecting portions lying substantially midway of the depth of the clip.

Alternatively the clip may be formed of wire bent into zig-zag formation, both constructions enabling the strip to be bent easily around curves of small radius, the foam rubber or like filling preventing the outer covering kinking or wrinkling.

#### WHAT WE CLAIM IS:—

1. A trimming or sealing strip including a metal clip and an extruded on or moulded on skin or covering having integrally formed inwardly directed resilient flange gripping portions, a woven fabric covering enclosing the clip and skin, and a layer of foam rubber or foam plastic interposed between the skin and outer woven covering where necessary or where desired, the clip being of substantially inverted "U" shape, the longitudinal edges of the outer covering being turned inwardly and upwardly into the interior of the clip.

2. A trimming or sealing strip as claimed in claim 1, the longitudinal edges of the outer covering extending upwardly into the clip above the upper edges of the inwardly directed resilient flange gripping portions so that the flange is gripped indirectly.

3. A trimming or sealing strip as claimed in claim 2, wherein woven-in rubber thread is incorporated into the woven outer covering near its longitudinal edges to obtain a better grip on the flange faces.

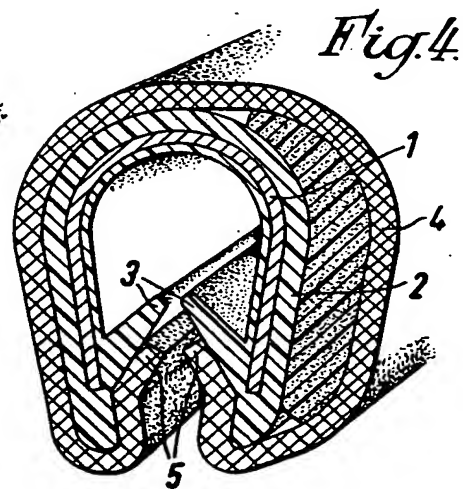
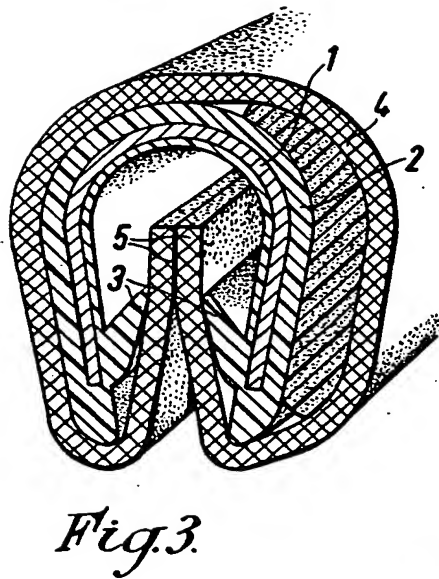
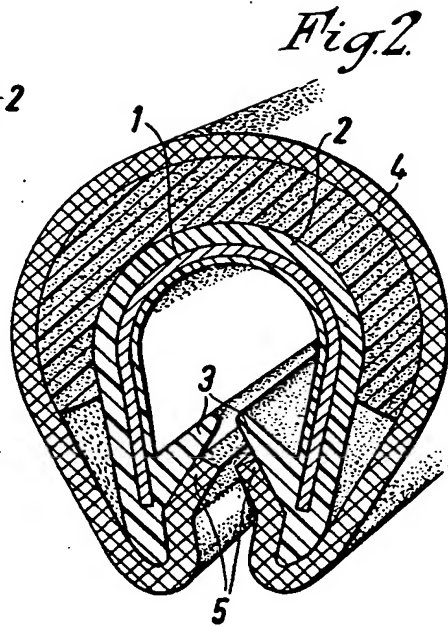
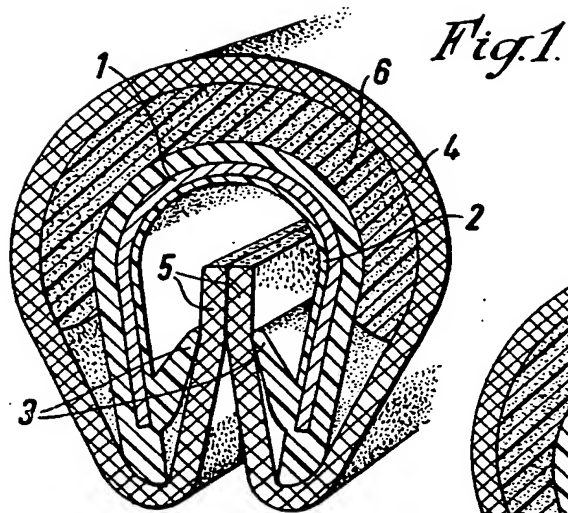
4. A trimming or sealing strip as claimed in claim 1, wherein the outer woven fabric covering is of reduced width so that when turned inwardly and upwardly into the interior of the clip it leaves the flange gripping portions exposed.

5. A trimming or sealing strip as claimed in any of the preceding claims, wherein the sponge rubber or sponge plastic layer lies over the rounded upper part of the clip.

6. A trimming or sealing strip as claimed in any of claims 1 to 4, wherein the sponge rubber or sponge plastic layer lies on one side of the clip.

7. A trimming or sealing strip substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to any of the examples illustrated by the accompanying drawings.

For the Applicants:  
F. J. CLEVELAND & COMPANY,  
Chartered Patent Agents,  
Lincoln's Inn Chambers,  
40/43 Chancery Lane, London, W.C.2.



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